



Otis Crafton Sutherland

March 18, 1933 - June 9, 2026

Otis Crafton Sutherland, born March 18, 1933, in Raphine, Virginia, passed away peacefully at the age of 93 on June 9, 2026. He was the beloved son of Charles Otis Sutherland and Alice Marie Blackwell Sutherland and the oldest of six children. From an early age, Otis displayed the strength, determination, and leadership that would define his life.

A gifted athlete in his youth, Otis was the star pitcher for the Staunton Braves. Under the guidance of his coach, Ted Bosiak, he developed not only his athletic talents but also the discipline and character that would serve him throughout his life.

In the early 1950's, Otis proudly served his country in the United States Army. His service reflected the same sense of duty, loyalty, and commitment that characterized every aspect of his life.

Otis was a man of remarkable character-strong both mentally and physically. He was a rock for the family and friends, a loyal protector whose powerful presence was balanced by a gentle spirit. Those fortunate enough to know him experienced his unwavering devotion, wisdom, and generosity. Above all, Otis embodied unconditional love, especially in his lifelong devotion to his beloved wife, Joann, who preceded him in death.

Throughout his life, Otis embraced many careers and opportunities. He was particularly accomplished in the hospitality industry, managing dinner theaters, hotels, and restaurants, where his leadership and work ethic earned the respect of colleagues and guests alike. Later in life, he fulfilled a dream of seeing America from behind the wheel of a semi-truck, traveling across the country and taking in its natural beauty. He especially loved the majestic Tetons near Jackson, Wyoming, and the sweeping deserts of New Mexico, places that reflected his appreciation for both strength and serenity.

Otis had a deep love for food and friendship, which always led him to Rubens Restaurant on 58 in Danville, Virginia – a place he affectionately called “Brad and Friends.”

Otis is survived by his daughter, Deborah Bowman; his granddaughters, Alissa (Frank), Jessica (Tony), and Amanda; and his cherished great-grandchildren, Alyssa, Nicholas, Ava, Mason, and Brooks. He is also survived by his siblings, Avis V. Sutherland, of Providence, North Carolina; Pauline Caricofe, of New Hope, Virginia; Earnest (Gloria) Sutherland, of Waynesboro, Virginia; as well as his nephew, Avis Vee Sutherland, of Alton, Virginia.

In addition to his wife, Joann, Otis was preceded in death by his sisters, Sarah Cash and Ferreba Clark.

Otis leaves behind a legacy of love, resilience, loyalty, and quiet strength. His life was a testament to hard work, dedication to family, enduring friendships, and steadfast devotion. He will be deeply missed, fondly remembered, and forever carried in the hearts of those who loved him, including his best buddy, a beautiful English Pointer named Sydnee.

A Celebration of Life Service for Otis will be held on Thursday, June 18, 2026, at 7:00 P.M. at the Wrenn-Yeatts Funeral Homes, Westover Chapel, with the

Pastor Todd Hartley officiating. The family will receive friends one hour prior to the service at the funeral home.

The family will also be available to receive friends at the residence 10565 Hwy 86 North, on Saturday, June 13, 2026, from 4:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M.

Wrenn-Yeatts Funeral Homes, Westover Chapel, is respectfully serving the Sutherland family.

Upcoming Events

Visitation

JUN 18. 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Wrenn-Yeatts Westover Chapel
5858 Riverside Drive
Danville, VA 24541
(434) 793-5511
info@wrenn-yeatts.com
<https://www.wrenn-yeatts.com>

Celebration Of Life

JUN 18. 7:00 PM (ET)

Wrenn-Yeatts Westover Chapel
5858 Riverside Drive
Danville, VA 24541
(434) 793-5511
info@wrenn-yeatts.com
<https://www.wrenn-yeatts.com>

Tribute Wall



“ 80 files added to the album Life Tributes



Wrenn-Yeatts Funeral Homes - 6 hours ago

TF

“ The Caricofe Family purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Otis Crafton Sutherland.



The Caricofe Family - 6 hours ago

BM

“ Otis was a man of great knowledge and wisdom of many things, he was happy to share that wisdom and knowledge with others who were seeking it. He was truly a man that wore many hats and he will be missed by many as well. Thanks for friendship

Brad Moore - 13 hours ago



“ Prayers for the family 🙏

Joyce Collins - Yesterday at 01:49 PM

DD

“ So very sorry for your loss. All in my prayers family friends and neighbors..RIP

Donald Dockery - Yesterday at 11:06 AM

BM

Otis shared his great wisdom and knowledge of many things with so many people. He was truly a man that and will wore many hats and he will be remembered as such

Brad Moore - 13 hours ago

JC

“ I worked many years for Otis cooking at bingo. He was a great person and mentor. I will always remember the many lessons he taught me. Otis will be missed by many.

Joshua Clayton - June 11 at 10:51 AM



“ So glad to have such a wonderful friend in my life ,a guy that was always friendly to everyone he met.Otis will be missed by everyone he met.



Rachel Patton - June 11 at 06:51 AM